ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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Westside Salmon Announcement 9

This is the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in Dillingham with an update regarding commercial fishing in the Nushagak District. This is Westside salmon announcement number 9 issued Sunday, June 24 at 3:00 p.m.

As previously announced, commercial fishing in the Igushik Section of the Nushagak District with set gillnets only will close at 4:30 p.m. June 24 and reopen for 12 hours from 5:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. June 25.

Daily sockeye salmon escapement into the Wood River was 768 making the cumulative 14,004 through June 23. Daily king salmon escapement into the Nushagak River was 1,429 making the cumulative 14,179. Daily sockeye salmon escapement into the Nushagak River was 1,319 making the cumulative 17,723 through June 23.

At this time, the escapement into the Wood and Nushagak Rivers is slow. An aerial survey this morning was not helpful in assessing what volume of fish is moving into the Wood River. Subsistence harvests however, do indicate that there is going to be an increase in escapement in the next 24 to 36 hours. With the uncertainty of the volume of fish moving into the Nushagak and Wood Rivers, the department would like to be ready to respond on short notice with some fishing in the Nushagak District as early as 4:00 p.m. Monday, June 25. The most likely scenario is that the possibility of a short notice opening will be pushed back with an announcement Tuesday, June 26. However, because of the uncertainty involved we need to be prepared for fishing prior to that.

This has been the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in Dillingham.